

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 11-20, 22-31, 34, and 35 are pending in this application, wherein claims 11-17, 20, 22-29, 34 and 35 are being amended to improve form, as follows:

1-10. Canceled.

11. (Currently Amended) A map display method for detecting the present position of a vehicle and displaying a road map including a vehicle position mark indicating the present position of the vehicle and a guide route along which the vehicle runs, comprising the steps of:

preparing a summarized map indicating the guide route with a summarization degree corresponding to a distance from the present vehicle position to a destination or a running speed of the vehicle;

displaying the summarized map thus prepared on a display screen[[means]]; and

giving priorities to roads including each road traversed along the guide route, at least one main road and branch roads in that order in the summarized map;

storing an ID for identifying road data for each of the roads being given priorities, categories indicating road types for the roads, and the priorities set for the roads in a table,

wherein the priorities in said table set for the roads traversed along the guide route and crossing roads intersecting with the guide route in the main road and the branch roads are changed in accordance with a change in the guide route and the crossing roads existing in an area displayed in the summarized map due to a change in the present position and the running speed of the vehicle,

wherein the summarized map is prepared by selecting at least one road on the guide route and at least one road of the crossing roads from the roads based on the changed priorities, and

wherein [[the]]a number of objects or an occupied area ratio of objects displayed in the display screen is changed in accordance with the running speed of the vehicle by using the changing priorities.

12. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 11,

wherein the objects are displayed in the summarized map is summarized always ~~with the objects therein not more than~~within a predetermined limit amount.

13. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 11,
wherein [[the]]a limit amount of the objects displayed in the summarized map is predetermined, and the summarized map is prepared with the objects displayed therein always not more than the limit amount.
14. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 11, wherein ~~two screens including the summarized map and a road map of another display form can be displayed in a second display screen.~~
15. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 12, wherein ~~two screens including the summarized map and a road map of another display form can be displayed in a second display screen.~~
16. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 14, wherein the road map of the another display form is a local plane map of a neighborhood of the present vehicle position.
17. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 15, wherein the road map of the another display form is a local plane map of a neighborhood of the present vehicle position.
18. (Previously Presented) A map display method according to Claim 16, wherein a contraction scale of the local plane map is variable.
19. (Previously Presented) A map display method according to Claim 17, wherein a contraction scale of the local plane map is variable.
20. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 12,
wherein the limit amount is the number of the objects or a ratio of an area of the display screen[[means]]occupied by the objects.

21. (Canceled).
22. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 11,
wherein a range of ~~a display~~ the area displayed [[of]] in the summarized map is changed in accordance with [[a]]~~the~~ running speed of the vehicle.
23. (Currently Amended) A map display method for detecting a present position of a vehicle and displaying a road map including a vehicle position mark indicating the present position of the vehicle and a guide route along which the vehicle runs, comprising the steps of:
 - preparing a summarized map indicating the guide route with a summarization degree corresponding to a distance from the present position of the vehicle to a destination or a running speed of the vehicle;
 - displaying the summarized map prepared on a display screen[[means]];
 - giving priorities to roads including roads traversed along the guide route, a main road and a branch road in this order in the summarized map;
 - storing an ID for identifying road data for each of the roads being given priorities, categories indicating road types for the roads, and the priorities for the roads in a table,
 - changing the priorities in said table set for the roads traversed along the guide route and crossing roads intersecting with the guide route in the main road and the branch road in accordance with a change in the guide route and the crossing roads existing in an area displayed in the summarized map due to a change in the present position and the running speed of the vehicle; and
 - preparing the summarized map by selecting at least one road on the guide route and at least one road of the crossing roads from the roads based on the changed priorities,
 - changing [[the]]~~a~~ number of objects or ~~an~~ occupied area ratio of objects displayed in the display screen in accordance with the running speed of the vehicle by using the changing priorities, and
wherein a number of the selected roads does not exceed a limit number, the limit number being predetermined according to the summarization degree.

24. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 23, further comprising the step of:

~~summarizing preparing the summarized map with objects therein, at the number of [[the]]objects displayed being not more than within a predetermined limit amount.~~

25. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

predetermining a limit amount of objects to be displayed in the summarized map; and preparing the summarized map with ~~objects, at the number of the objects displayed therein being not more than~~within the limit amount.

26. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 23, wherein ~~two screens including the summarized map and a road map are displayed in a second display screen~~, each of the two display screens being displayed in different display forms.

27. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 24, wherein ~~two screens including the summarized map and a road map are displayed in a second display screen~~, each of the two display screens being displayed in different display forms.

28. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 26, wherein the road map ~~in one of the display forms~~ is a local plane map of a neighborhood of the present position of the vehicle.

29. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 27, wherein the road map ~~of one of the display forms~~ is a local plane map of a neighborhood of the present position of the vehicle.

30. (Previously Presented) A map display method according to Claim 28, wherein a contraction scale of the local plane map is variable.

31. (Previously Presented) A map display method according to Claim 29, wherein a contraction scale of the local plane map is variable.

32-33. (Canceled).

34. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 23, wherein a range of ~~a display~~the area displayed [[of]]in the summarized map is changed in accordance with [[a]]the running speed of the vehicle

35. (Currently Amended) A map display method according to Claim 24, wherein a range of ~~a display~~the area displayed [[of]]in the summarized map is changed in accordance with [[a]]the running speed of the vehicle.